

Questionnaire for the report of LATVIA on the implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in the period 2019–2021

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Part one

Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Convention

In this part, please provide the information requested, or revise any information relative to the previous report. Describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not its experience in the application of the Convention.

Please do not reproduce the text of the legislation itself but summarize and explicitly refer to the relevant provisions transposing the text of the Convention (for example, Environmental Impact Assessment Law of the Republic of ..., article 5 (3) of Government Resolution No. ..., para. ... item...)

Article 1

Definitions

I.1.1. Is the definition of the term “impact” for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as that contained in article 1 (vii)?

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes, with some minor differences (please explain the differences):
- (c) No, there are major differences (please explain the differences):
- (d) The term “impact” is not defined in the legislation

Your comments:

I.1.2. Is the definition of the term “transboundary impact” for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as that contained in article 1 (viii)?

- (a) Yes, the same
- (b) Yes, with some minor differences (please explain the differences):
- (c) No, there are major differences (please explain the differences):
- (d) The term “transboundary impact” is not defined in the legislation

Your comments:

I.1.3. Please specify how the term “major change” is defined in your national legislation:

- (a) It is not defined
- (b) By using thresholds (Please explain:)
- (c) By using criteria (Please explain:)
- (d) On a case-by-case basis (Please explain:)

Your comments:

According to the Article 3.2 paragraph 1.3 of the EIA Law changes in the current activities that are subject to environmental impact assessment are changes conform to the border values referred to in Annex 1 of EIA Law, as a result of changes the border values referred to in Annex 1 EIA Law are reached or exceeded, changes are intended in the object referred to in Annex 1 EIA Law, for which an impact assessment has not been performed hitherto, and the extent of changes is 50 per cent of the border value referred to in Annex 1 EIA Law. According to the Article 3.2 paragraph 2 of the EIA Law upon evaluating the extent of changes in activities in accordance with Paragraph 1.3 the sum of changes

planned and carried out during the last five years or the sum of planned changes which have been carried out since completing the previous initial assessment shall be taken into account.

I.1.4. How do you identify the public “of the affected Party in the areas likely to be affected”? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Based on the geographical location of the proposed project
- (b) By making the information available to all members of the public and letting them identify themselves as the public concerned
- (c) By other means (please specify):

Your comments: The public is notified within a period of 14 days after the information has been received from the Party of Origin. According to the EIA Law if the activity is planned to be implemented outside the territory of Latvia, within 14 days after information is received from the Party of origin, this notification has been placed in the internet and at least one local newspaper and also the State Environmental Bureau (competent authority) (hereinafter – the SEB). The SEB may send this notification to those institutions and organisations with which it is necessary to consult. In the notice has been given all information, where public and interested institutions may acquire information regarding the activity, as well as information regarding time period up to when written proposals may be submitted to the SEB. The SEB shall compile the proposals submitted by the public and interested institution and send them to the competent authority of the relevant State.

I.1.5. How do you determine the “significance” of the environmental impact of the activities falling within the scope of the Convention?¹ Please specify (more than one option may apply), providing relevant explanations:

- (a) By establishing threshold levels (please explain Annex 1 and 2 of the EIA Law)
- (b) By applying criteria related to the location of proposed activities (please explain the Article 11 paragraph 2 of the EIA Law)
- (c) By applying criteria related to the nature of proposed activities (please explain the Article 11 paragraph 1 of the EIA Law)
- (d) By applying criteria related to the size of proposed activities (please explain the Article 11 paragraph 1, the Annex 2 of the EIA Law)
- (e) By applying criteria related to the effects of proposed activities (please explain the Article 11 paragraph 3 of the EIA Law)
- (f) Other (please explain):
- (g) It is not determined (please explain:)

Your comments: According to the Article 11 of the EIA Law general criteria to assist in determining the environmental significance of activities are: **the factors characterizing the intended activity** (the scope and technical solutions, the mutual and total impact of the intended activities and other activities, the use of natural resources, particularly subterranean depths, soil, water, and biological diversity, the occurrence of waste, pollution and disturbances, substantial risk of accidents or disasters related to the intended activity, also such risk which may be caused by the climate change that are justified by scientific knowledge, human health risks (for example, a risk caused by water or air pollution); **the factors characterizing the location of the intended activity and the geographical properties of such location** (the current and approved type of use of the territory and functional zoning, the relative quantity, availability, and sufficiency, quality and possibilities for renewal of natural resources [including soil, subterranean depths, water, and biological diversity (particularly taking into account the protected species,

¹ Although the term “significance” is not explicitly defined in the Convention, appendix III thereto provides general criteria to assist in determining the environmental significance of activities not listed in appendix I.

their habitats, specially protected biotopes and biotopes of European Union significance)] in the relevant territory, the absorptive capacity of the natural environment to be evaluated by paying particular attention to wetlands, protective zones of surface water bodies, and river mouths of international significance, the coastal protection zone and marine environment of the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga, territories covered in forest, specially protected nature territories and micro-reserves, protection zones around underground water supply points, territories in which the level of pollution is higher or, as it was detected earlier, was higher than provided for in the environmental quality standards and in which such non-conformity is possible, densely populated territories, landscapes and sites of historical, archaeological, and cultural and historical significance; **the possible environmental impact of the intended activity shall be assessed in accordance with the criteria specified in Paragraphs one and two of this Section and taking into account the intended activities:** the amount and spatial spreading of the impact (the size of the territory subject to the possible impact and the number of exposed inhabitants), the nature and possible transboundary effect of the impact, the intensity and complexity of the impact, the probability of the impact, the planned beginning, duration, frequency, and reversibility of the impact, the mutual and joint impact on other current or approved intended activities which affect the same territory, the possibility of reducing the intended environmental impact in a wholesome manner.

I.1.6. Please clarify whether “cumulative impacts” are taken into account in transboundary procedures under the Convention in your national legislation and, if so, how:

(a) Yes, the legislation provides for taking into account cumulative impacts:

Please explain: The “cumulative impacts” are taken into account in the screening process (the Article 11 paragraph 1.2 of the EIA Law) and scoping process (the Article 2.10.3. of the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 18 “*Procedures for Assessing the Environmental Impact of the Intended Activity and Accepting the Intended Activity*”) of the EIA as well as transboundary EIA.

(b) No, the legislation does not provide for taking into account cumulative impacts

Please explain:

Your comments:

Article 2 General provisions

I.2.1. Provide information on legislative, regulatory, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention (art. 2 (2)):

(a) Law on environmental impact assessment (please provide exact title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

The Law on Environmental Impact (hereinafter referred as to – the EIA Law) (Year of adoption – 1998; <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/51522-on-environmental-impact-assessment>).

(b) Environmental impact assessment provisions are transposed into another law/other laws (please specify and provide title(s) of the related legislation):

(c) Regulation (please indicate number/year/title/related articles/access links): 2015 Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 18 on “*Procedures for Assessing the Environmental Impact of the Intended Activity and Accepting the Intended Activity*” (hereinafter referred as to – Regulation No18) (Year of adoption – 2015; <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/271684-kartiba-kada-noverte-paredzetas-darbibas-ietekmi-uz-vidi-un-akcepte-paredzeto-darbibu>).

(d) Administrative (please indicate number/year/title/related articles/access links):

(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

I.2.2. Is the list of activities referred to in appendix I to the Convention fully transposed into your country's national legislation?

(a) Yes. There is no difference, all activities referred to in appendix I are covered by national legislation

Please elaborate, as needed: In the Appendix I of the EIA Law there are many thresholds according to the EIA Directive and national regulation, which are some cases stricter than in the Appendix I of the Espoo Convention.

(b) No. Activities covered by national legislation differ slightly from the activities referred to in appendix I Please explain:

(c) No, there are gaps remaining in the list of activities in the national legislation

Please explain:

I.2.3. Indicate the competent authority/authorities responsible for carrying out the environmental impact assessment procedure in your country. Please specify:

(a) There are different authorities at the national, regional, and local levels

(b) Authorities are different for domestic and transboundary procedures

(c) Authorities are the same for domestic and transboundary procedures

Please name the authority/authorities and its/their responsibilities: The State Environmental Bureau a competent/responsible authority for the domestic and transboundary environmental impact assessment and the strategic environmental impact assessment procedures in the Republic of Latvia.

I.2.4. Is there an authority in your country that collects information on all the transboundary environmental impact assessment cases? If so, please name it:

(a) No

(b) Yes

If "Yes", please clarify the type of information collected and provide access link, if available:

Your comments: The State Environmental Bureau according to the 2004 Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 4 on "*The statutes of the State Environmental Bureau*" (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/82879-vides-parraudzibas-valsts-biroja-nolikums>) and the EIA Law. Information about the transboundary EIA cases is provided on the SEB webpage <https://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/parrobezu-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti> (including received information about notification, public participation process, results of the consultation according to the legislation).

Article 3 Notification

I.3.1. Article 3 (1) states that: "The Party of origin shall notify any Party which it considers may be an affected Party as early as possible and no later than when informing its own public about that proposed activity." As a Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Parties?

(a) During scoping

(b) When the environmental impact assessment report has been prepared and the domestic procedure has started

(c) After finishing the domestic procedure

(d) At other times (please specify):

Your comments:

I.3.2. Please define the format of notification used in your country:

(a) Notification is carried out using the tabular form in table 1 of decision I/4 on the format for notification adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its first session (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 32 and table 1)

(b) Notification is carried out in the form of a letter containing all information detailed in decision I/4 of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 34)

(c) A combination of (a) and (b) above (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 35)

(d) The country has its own format (please attach a copy)

(e) No official format used

Your comments:

I.3.3. As a Party of origin, what information do you include in the notification (art. 3 (2))? Please specify (more than one options may apply):

(a) Information on the proposed activity, including any available information on its possible transboundary impact (art. 3 (2) (a))

(b) The nature of the possible decision (art. 3 (2) (b))

(c) An indication of a reasonable time within which a response is required, taking into account the nature of the proposed activity (art. 3 (2) (c))

(d) Relevant information regarding the environmental impact assessment procedure, including an indication of the time schedule for transmittal of comments (art. 3 (5) (a))

(e) Relevant information on the proposed activity and its possible significant adverse transboundary impact (art. 3 (5) (b))

(f) Other (please specify): An Intended Activity Submission

Your comments: Article 20.¹ paragraph 3 of the EIA Law defines requirements for information that should be included in the notification. Content of an Intended Activity Submission is defined in the Article 2 – 7 of the Regulation No18.

I.3.4. Article 3 (3) requires that “The affected Party shall respond to the Party of origin within the time specified in the notification”. As a Party of origin, please indicate whether your country’s legislative or regulatory framework defines a time frame for response to the notification by the affected Party/ies and, if so, how:

(a) No, the time frame is not specified in the national legislation

(b) Yes, the time frame is specified in the national legislation

Please indicate the time frame or its range as per your national legislation, in weeks/days: According to the Article 20.¹, paragraph 6 of the EIA Law the time period for the submission of proposals shall be determined not shorter than 30 days from the day when the concerned authority of the affected state has been sent a written notification.

(c) The time frame is determined and agreed with each affected Party on a case-by-case basis

Please indicate the average time frame set on a case-by-case basis, in weeks/days: According to the national legislation Latvia provides time frame of 30 days, counting from day when the concerned authority of the affected state has been sent a written notification. If affected Party needs more than 30 days, it can be discussed on the bilateral base.

Your comments: There has been no case when affected Party asked to extend the deadline.

I.3.5. Please specify the consequences should a notified affected Party not comply with the time frame for responding to the notification, as required by article 3 (3), and elaborate on the possibilities of extending the deadline: Not complying with the time frame or asking extension would then be discussed on bilateral bases with the affected Party.

Your comments: There has been no case that notified affected Party does not comply with the time frame for responding to the notification and asks to elaborate on the possibilities of extending the deadline

I.3.6. Article 3 (8) states that: “The concerned Parties shall ensure that the public of the affected Party in the areas likely to be affected be informed of ... the proposed activity”. Which of the following approaches do you use to achieve this goal? Please specify:

(a) Informing the point of contact for the Convention listed on the Convention website²

(b) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.3.7. On what basis does your country, as an affected Party, make the decision to participate (or not) in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure? Please specify:

(a) Notified ministry/authority of the affected Party responsible for environmental impact assessment decides on its own based on the documentation provided by the Party of origin

(b) Based on the opinion of the competent authorities of the affected Party

(c) Based on the opinion of the competent authorities and of the public of the affected Party

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments: According to the Article 20.¹, paragraph 6.² of the EIA Law the competent authority (the State Environment Bureau) informs the relevant authorities and organisations, as well as the public about the case of the transboundary environmental impact assessment providing sent documentation. The decision to participate or not is based on the opinions and proposals submitted by the interested institutions and public. If at least one of the received opinions determine participation, the SEB informs competent authority of the origin Party about participation in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure.

I.3.8. Article 3 (5) (a) states that the Party of origin must provide affected Parties with “relevant information regarding the environmental impact assessment procedure, including an indication of the time schedule for transmittal of comments”.

How does your country, as a Party of origin, determine the time schedule referred to in article 3 (5) (a)? Please specify:

(a) Following the rules and procedures of the Party of origin

(b) Following the rules and procedures of the affected Party/ies

² List available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/points-contact-regarding-notification>.

(c) A combination of (a) and (b) above. Please specify the rules and procedures of the Party of origin and the affected Party/ies that are applied in the combination:

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

Articles 2 (6), 3 (8) and 4 (2) Public participation

I.3.9. Article 2 (6) of the Convention states that: “The Party of origin shall provide an opportunity to the public in the areas likely to be affected to participate in relevant environmental impact assessment procedures and shall ensure that the opportunity provided to the public of the affected Party is equivalent to that provided to the public of the Party of origin.”

How does your country’s environmental impact assessment legislation ensure that equivalent opportunities and rights to participate in the procedure are provided for the public of the affected Party?

(a) As an affected Party:

(i) Not specified in the national legislation, but it is determined and agreed with the Party of origin on a case-by-case basis at the beginning of the transboundary procedure

(ii) Specified in the national legislation as follows:

According to the Article 20.¹ paragraph 6.¹-6.³:

If the intended activity is planned to be implemented outside a territory within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Latvia and it may have a substantial impact on the environment of Latvia, the SEB shall, within 14 days after the information specified in Paragraph three or five of this Law has been received from the competent authority of the relevant state, post an announcement regarding such on the website thereof and publish such announcement in at least one local newspaper.

The announcement of the competent authority shall indicate the place where the public and interested institutions may acquire information on the intended activity and its transboundary impact, and also information on time periods up to when written proposals may be submitted to the competent authority. The SEB shall send the announcement to such authorities and organizations with which it is necessary to consult regarding program and reports.

The SEB shall compile the proposals submitted by the public and interested institutions and send them to the competent authority of the relevant state.

Your comments: There is bilateral agreement about public hearing meeting organization, document translation.

(b) As a Party of origin:

(i) Not specified in the national legislation; such equivalent opportunities and rights cannot be ensured in the procedure

Please explain:

(ii) Not specified in the national legislation, but it is determined and agreed with the affected Party on a case-by-case basis at the beginning of the transboundary procedure

(iii) Specified in the national legislation as follows:

According to the Article 20.¹ paragraph 2.-6.:

After coordination with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the SEB shall send a written notification regarding an intended activity which may have transboundary impact to the state upon which the intended activity may have an impact, before the initiator informs the Latvian public of the intended activity.

When the SEB has received a written request from any state in which an intended activity may have a substantial impact, it shall send the notification to this state, before the initiator informs the Latvian public of the intended activity.

If a state which has received the notification provides an answer in the time period indicated therein that it has decided to participate in an impact assessment, the SEB shall send it the programme, report and information on the procedures for the impact assessment.

In cooperation with the competent authority of the state which has decided to participate in an impact assessment, the SEB shall ensure the procedures in accordance with which the concerned institutions and the public of the affected state may become acquainted with the information referred to in Paragraphs three and five of this Section and submit proposals to the competent authority before it provides an opinion on the report. The time period for the submission of proposals shall be determined not shorter than 30 days from the day when the concerned authority of the affected state has been sent a written notification or a programme, report, and information on the procedures for the performance of the impact assessment.

Your comments: There is bilateral agreement about public hearing meeting organization, document translation.

I.3.10. How can the public of your country, as an affected Party, express its opinion on the environmental impact assessment documentation of the proposed project further to articles 2 (6), 3 (8) and 4 (2)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By sending comments in writing directly to the competent authority of the Party of origin, or to the ministry responsible for environmental affairs/focal point in the affected Party
- (b) In a territory of the affected Party: by taking part in consultations [on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation] or a special event, where the opinions of the public are officially registered
- (c) In a territory of the Party of origin: by taking part in consultations or a special event, where the opinions of the public are officially registered
- (d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

Article 4

Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation

I.4.1. How do you determine the relevant information to be included in the environmental impact assessment documentation in accordance with article 4 (1)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By using appendix II
- (b) By using the comments received from the authorities concerned during the scoping phase, if applicable
- (c) By using the comments received from members of the public during the scoping phase, if applicable

(d) As determined by the proponent based on its own expertise

(e) By using other means (please specify):

Your comments: The Annex 2 of the Regulation No 18 provides information that must be included in the EIA documentation.

I.4.2. Article 4 states that: “The environmental impact assessment documentation... shall contain, as a minimum, the information described in appendix II.” What quality control measures are provided for in the legislative or administrative framework of your country, as a Party of origin, to ensure sufficient quality of the documentation? Please specify:

(a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures that it includes all information required under appendix II as a minimum before making it available for comments

(b) By using quality checklists based on the requirements listed in appendix II

(c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.4.3. How do you determine “reasonable alternatives” in accordance with appendix II (b)?

(a) On a case-by-case basis

(b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify)

(c) Other (please specify):

Your comments: Developer is responsible for determining reasonable alternatives. According to the national legislation developer shall indicate at least two different solutions for the activity regarding the location or the types of technologies. If the intended activity may have a substantial impact upon areas of natural sensitivity of European significance (NATURA 2000), the initiator shall indicate in the proposal all the possible solutions in relation to the location of the planned activity and the types of technologies to be used (the Article 17 paragraph 3.2 of the EIA Law, the Annex 2 of the Regulation No 18).

Article 5 Consultations on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation

I.5. Does your national environmental impact assessment legislation provide for organizing transboundary consultations between the authorities of the Parties concerned?

(a) Yes, it is obligatory

(b) Yes, it is optional (please specify):

(c) No, it does not have any provision on that

Your comments: According to the Article 20.¹ paragraph 7 of the EIA Law, the competent authority shall consult with the competent authority of the state which has decided to participate in an impact assessment regarding the possible transboundary impact of an intended activity, regarding the activities for preventing or reducing the negative impact, and also regarding the time period necessary for consultations.

Article 6

Final decision

I.6.1. Please select from the list below the information that your country, as a Party of origin, in accordance with its legislative and administrative framework, should take due account of in the final decision on the proposed activity (art. 6 (1)):

- (a) Conclusions of the environmental impact assessment documentation
- (b) Comments received in accordance with articles 3 (8) and 4 (2)
- (c) Outcome of the consultations as referred to in article 5
- (d) Outcomes of the transboundary consultations
- (e) Comments received from the affected Party/ies
- (f) Mitigation measures
- (g) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.6.2. Are the comments of the authorities and the public of the affected Party and the outcome of the consultations taken into consideration in the same way as the comments from the authorities and the public in your country (art. 6 (1))?:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No Please explain the differences

Your comments:

I.6.3. According to article 6 (3): If additional information on the significant transboundary impact of a proposed activity, which was not available at the time a decision was made with respect to that activity and which could have materially affected the decision, becomes available to a concerned Party before work on that activity commences, that Party shall immediately inform the other concerned Party or Parties. If one of the concerned Parties so requests, consultations shall be held as to whether the decision needs to be revised.

Is there any regulation in your country that ensures the implementation of the provisions of article 6 (3)?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes, by legislation (please specify):
- (c) Yes, by other means (please specify): It is not regulated by national legislation, but this situation is discussed on the bilateral base in every case according to the Article 6 (3) of the Convention. We ask the Party origin to inform us about the findings of transboundary impact, especially if negative impacts on the environment are possible in the territory of Latvia, and the results of EIA.

Your comments:

I.6.4. Do all activities listed in appendix I (items 1–22) and major changes thereto require a final decision to authorize or undertake such an activity in your legislative framework?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

If “No”, please list those activities listed in appendix I or major changes thereto for which there is no requirement for a final decision. Please explain why those activities/major changes do not require a final decision in your national legislation.

Article 7

Post-project analysis

I.7. Is there any provision regarding implementation of post-project analysis in your national environmental impact assessment legislation (art. 7 (1))?

(a) No

(b) Yes Please specify: The Article 15 of the Regulations No 18 determines “*The measures for monitoring the quality of the environment and assessing the amount of greenhouse gases, if necessary (for example, preparation of post-project analysis). Measures for the monitoring of the quality of the environment and the assessment of the amount of greenhouse gases, as well as their duration, shall be determined in proportion to the nature, complexity, location, volume and significance of the environmental impact of the proposed activity.*”

Your comments:

Article 8

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

I.8.1. According to article 8: “The Parties may continue existing or enter into new bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements in order to implement their obligations under this Convention and under any of its protocols to which they are a Party. Such agreements or other arrangements may be based on the elements listed in appendix VI.”

Has your country established any bilateral or multilateral agreements to implement the Convention?

(a) No

(b) Yes Please specify with which countries: Bilateral agreement on EIA in a transboundary context (entry into force: 14 March 1997) with the Government of the Republic of Estonia.

If publicly available, please also attach the texts of any such bilateral and multilateral agreements, preferably in English, French or Russian.

Your comments: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/starptautiskie-ligumi/id/137-agreement-between-the-government-of-the-republic-of-latvia-and-the-government-of-the-republic-of-estonia-on-environmental-impact-assessment>.

I.8.2. What issues do these bilateral agreements cover (appendix VI)? (More than one option may apply):

(a) Specific conditions of the subregion concerned

(b) Institutional, administrative and other arrangements

(c) Harmonization of the Parties’ policies and measures

(d) Developing, improving and/or harmonizing methods for the identification, measurement, prediction and assessment of impacts, and for post-project analysis

(e) Developing and/or improving methods and programmes for the collection, analysis, storage and timely dissemination of comparable data regarding environmental quality in order to provide input into the environmental impact assessment

(f) Establishment of threshold levels and more specified criteria for defining the significance of transboundary impacts related to the location, nature or size of proposed activities

(g) Undertaking joint environmental impact assessment, development of joint monitoring programmes, intercalibration of monitoring devices and harmonization of methodologies ☒

(h) Other, please specify:

Your comments:

Complimentary information related to legal implementation of the Convention

I.9.1. Please describe how the steps required under your national legislation for carrying out a transboundary procedure are interlinked with a domestic environmental impact assessment procedure in the lead-up to the final decision.

In doing so, please also describe differences between the steps (i.e., screening/scoping, preparation of the environmental impact assessment, consultation, public participation, making a final decision) of a domestic procedure and a transboundary procedure, if any:

According to the EIA Law – the State Environment Bureau (the SEB) in cooperation with the Competent Authority of the State that has intended to participate in the EIA (affected party) ensure that those authorities and public concerned are given an opportunity to review the information and submit proposals to the Competent Authority before it submits Evaluation Report of the Final EIA.

If the planned activity is in territory in Latvia, according to the EIA Law – If a decision of the competent authority has been received that an impact assessment of an intended activity is to be performed, the developer shall publish an announcement regarding the intended activity and the possibility of the public to submit written proposals regarding the possible impact of such activity on the environment in at least one newspaper, as well as shall inform individually the owners (possessors) of immovable properties which are located next to the territory of the intended activity. The initiator shall submit the referred to announcement in the electronic form for the placement on the Internet homepage to the SEB and local government in the administrative territory of which the intended activity is planned. Upon a written request of the SEB or the local government in the administrative territory of which the intended activity is planned, a developer shall ensure an initial public discussion of the impact assessment of the intended activity. The developer may organize the initial public discussion upon his or her own initiative. Any person is entitled to participate in such discussion and to make his or her proposals.

Developer shall publish the relevant notification in at least one local newspaper not later than ten days prior to the planned initial public discussion and shall submit such notification for posting on the Internet home page of the SEB, local governments as well as shall send individual notices to the owners (possessors) of immovable property, whose property is next to the potential locations of the intended activities. The notification shall specify at least the following information:

1. the name of the intended activity, locations (addresses) and the date when the SEB has taken a decision regarding the necessity of an environmental impact assessment;
2. the initiator (given name, surname or name);
3. the location and time of the initial public discussion;
4. the time and location where the public may obtain information regarding the intended activity and become acquainted with the prepared documents; and
5. the office address, telephone number, Internet home page address.

Developer shall prepare the visual materials and copies of the documents necessary for a discussion.

According to EIA Law if the activity is planned to be implemented outside the territory of Latvia, within 14 days after information is received from the Party of origin, this notification has been placed in the internet and at least one local newspaper. In the notice

has been given all information, where public and interested institution may acquire information regarding the activity, as well as information regarding time period up to when written proposals may be submitted to the SEB. The SEB shall compile the proposals submitted by the public and interested institution and send them to the competent authority of the relevant State.

Alternatively, this question can be answered or supported by a schematic flow chart showing these steps.

Your comments:

I.9.2. Does your country have special provisions or informal arrangements concerning transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures for joint cross-border projects, the construction of nuclear power plants and/or their lifetime extension?

<i>Joint cross-border projects</i>	<i>Construction of nuclear power plants</i>	<i>Lifetime extension of nuclear power plants</i>
(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Special provisions:	(i) Special provisions:	(i) Special provisions:
(ii) Informal arrangements:	(ii) Informal arrangements:	(ii) Informal arrangements:
Please explain:	Please explain:	Please explain:

Your comments: All cases have common general procedure. For joint cross-border projects with the Republic of Estonia we also apply *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Estonia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context*.

Part two

Practical application during the period 2019–2021³

Please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Convention (not your country's procedures, as described in part one), whether as a Party of origin or as an affected Party. The focus here is on identifying good practices as well as difficulties Parties have encountered in applying the Convention in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Please therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Convention and innovative approaches to improving its application.

Part two also focuses on general issues arising from the sixth review of implementation of the Convention (2016–2018)^a and issues that have been identified as priorities by Parties in the 2021–2023 workplan.^b It also addresses the goals of the Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol that requires that the reviews of implementation be adapted, in particular, “to maximize their usefulness as a source of information, highlight progress achieved, draw attention to areas that need improvement, disseminate best practice ...”.^c

^a United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/32.

^b ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1, decision VIII/2–IV/2.

^c ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1, decision VIII/3–IV/3, annex, item II.A.9.

A. List of transboundary procedures initiated during the period 2019–2021

II.1. Please indicate, in the table provided in annex I to the present questionnaire, the total number of transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures initiated in the reporting period in relation to activities listed in appendix I to the Convention and in which your country was a Party of origin or affected Party. Please also indicate the number and types of transboundary procedures related to activities not listed in appendix I that your country implemented in the reporting period as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, if any.

Your comments: There was no transboundary EIA procedures initiated by the Republic of Latvia in the reporting period.

II.2. Please list transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures referred to in question II.1. above using table 1 of annex II to the present questionnaire for procedures in which your country was a Party of origin and table (2) for procedures in which your country was an affected Party.

Your comments: There was no transboundary EIA procedures initiated by the Republic of Latvia in the reporting period.

II.3. According to paragraph 10 of decision VIII/5 of the Meeting of the Parties the project lists referred to in question II.2 above and annex II to the present questionnaire are to be posted on the ECE website. Should your country object to this, however, please indicate “Yes” and explain, as relevant:

(a) Yes (my country has an objection the compilation and posting of this information)

³ Part II of this questionnaire is not considered to be a reporting obligation according to the Convention. Parties are encouraged to share examples of good practice, subject to their capabilities and the availability of relevant data.

Please explain:

(b) No (no objection)

Your comments:

B. Experience in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure during the period 2019–2021

Please share with other Parties your country's experience of using the Convention in practice. When responding to each of the questions below, please provide one or two practical examples and/or describe your country's general experience. You might also include examples of lessons learned in order to help others.

II.4. Please provide at least one example of the implementation of the Convention for an activity listed in appendix I to the Convention based on the template contained in annex III to the present questionnaire.

Your comments: Unfortunately, we can't provide any example due to lack of options and capacity.

II.5. The Convention does not refer to the translation of environmental impact assessment documentation and to other language-related issues as important prerequisites for providing effective public participation of potentially affected Parties in a transboundary procedure. As an affected Party, please specify in which language(s) the environmental impact assessment documentation is made available for your own public to ensure effective public participation in transboundary procedures. (You may select several options, as needed):

- (a) In the official language(s) of the country Please specify at least EIA summary
- (b) Information in English is acceptable EIA report
- (c) Please list other languages that fulfil the requirements of effective public participation in your country, if applicable:

Your comments

II.6. What difficulties has your country experienced with regard to translation of environmental impact assessment documentation and interpretation during consultation meetings with authorities, or during events organized within the public participation procedure, if applicable, and what solutions has it found?

- (a) Experience with regard to translation of the environmental impact assessment documentation
 - (i) As a Party of origin: The overall experience and cooperation with other Parties with regards to translation has been good.
 - (ii) As an affected Party: The overall experience and cooperation with other Parties with regards to translation has been good. There have been several cases when the amount of translated text has been too short or concentrated.
- (b) Experience with regard to interpretation during consultation meetings with authorities
 - (i) As a Party of origin: Usually consultations with authorities are in writing. The overall experience has been good and successful.
 - (ii) As an affected Party: Usually consultations with authorities are in writing. The overall experience has been good and successful.
- (c) Experience with regard to interpretation during public participation-related events
 - (i) As a Party of origin: The overall experience has been good.

- (ii) As an affected Party: The overall experience has been good.

Your comments:

II.7. Which Party covers the cost of translation of environmental impact assessment documentation?

- (a) As a Party of origin: Translation was provided by developer.
(b) As an affected Party: Translation was provided by developer.
(c) Other, please specify:

Your comments:

II.8. What parts of the environmental impact assessment documentation does your country usually translate/require to be translated?

- (a) As a Party of origin: As a party of origin, we are asking to developer to provide EIA documentation to the affected party in their official language (at the minimum EIA summary
(b) As an affected Party: As an affected party, we always are asking to provide EIA documentation in our language (at the minimum EIA summary in Latvian for the public). If the public consultation has been organized in the territory.

II.9. Has the issue of translation been addressed in bilateral agreements between your country and other Parties?

- (a) Yes Please explain how it has been addressed: The Party of origin is responsible for providing the affected Party with the information and documentation to be evaluated in mutually agreed language.
(b) No

Your comments:

II.10. As a Party of origin, how and in which language do you usually provide environmental impact assessment documentation to the affected Party?

- (a) A full set of environmental impact assessment documentation is translated into English
(b) Selected parts of the documentation are translated in English
Please specify which parts are translated and how they are selected
(c) A full set of environmental impact assessment documentation is translated into the affected Party's language
(d) Selected parts of environmental impact assessment documentation are translated into the language of the affected Party
Please specify which parts are translated and how they are selected
(e) Other (please specify) The developer is asked to provide the EIA documentation to the affected party in their official language (at the minimum EIA summary for the public) or in English.

Your comments:

II. 11. Please indicate how the costs of interpretation during the events organized within the public participation procedure are covered:

- (a) By the developer: Please explain: According to the EIA Law the developer shall finance the environmental impact assessment procedure.
(b) By the Party of origin alone: Please explain
(c) By the affected Party alone: Please explain

- (d) Shared by both Parties concerned upon an agreement:
- (e) Please provide details of related agreements and considerations based on which the Parties concerned agreed to share the translation costs:
- (f) Other (please specify)

Your comments:

II.12. Please describe any difficulties that your country has encountered during public participation procedures and consultations referred to in articles 2 (5), 3 (8), 4 (2) and 5 with regard to issues not covered above; for example, with regard to time frames for the duration of public participation and the consultation period and the need for additional information:

- (a) As a Party of origin:
 - (i) Experience with public participation
 - (ii) Experience with consultations under article 5
- (b) As an affected Party:
 - (i) Experience with public participation
 - (ii) Experience with consultations under article 5

Your comments: No difficulties

II.13. Has your country carried out post-project analyses in the period 2019–2021:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes

Please list the projects for which post-project analysis was carried out, describing challenges and lessons learned, if any:

Your comments:

II.14. Does your country have successful examples of organizing transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures in any of the categories of projects indicated below?

<i>Joint cross-border projects</i>	<i>Construction of nuclear power plants</i>	<i>Lifetime extension of nuclear power plants</i>
(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

If “Yes”, please describe what, in your opinion, made it successful, for example, means of cooperation (for example, contact points, joint bodies, bilateral agreements, special and common provisions, etc.), institutional arrangements, and how practical matters are dealt with (for example, translation, interpretation, transmission of documents, etc.):

- (a) For joint cross-border projects:
- (b) For construction of nuclear power plants:
- (c) For lifetime extension of nuclear power plants:

You may also wish to describe the example using annex III to the present questionnaire.

Your comments:

II.15. Please provide examples from your experience during the reporting period (either complete cases or elements such as notification, consultation and public participation) for the information of Parties that, in your view, constitute good practice or lessons learned on various topics:

Your comments: Regarding pandemic solutions for public meeting organization, good practise that could be taken into account in future transboundary consultations is live online meeting organization (cost effective, more participants may take part). We can highlight example when the Republic of Lithuania organized online meeting and provided interpretation in Latvian.

II.16. The Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol⁴ recommends enhancing the use of the networks of national focal points for administrative matters⁵ and points of contact for notification⁶ published on the website of the Convention. Does your country use the networks for contacting the affected Parties' authorities?

- (a) Yes, my country makes use of the networks
- (b) My country is aware of the networks but is not using them

Please explain why, and describe the alternative ways used by your country to identify which competent authority of the affected Party to contact:

Your comments: Usually we send notification to the contact point around the Baltic Sea.

II.17. Please specify what quality control measures your country, as a Party of origin, applies to ensure sufficient quality of environmental impact assessment documentation and, in particular, that said documentation contains, as a minimum, information described in appendix II to the Convention.

Your comments: The SEB checks the information provided and ensures that it includes all information required under appendix II as a minimum before making it available for comments.

II.18. Please specify whether alternatives are assessed in the environmental impact assessment documentation and, if so, how. If possible, provide at least one example of such assessment, either as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, or both

Your comments: Alternatives must be assessed in the environmental impact assessment documentation (location or technology).

II.19. Please specify whether the following issues are considered in the environmental impact assessment documentation:

- (a) Biodiversity usually
- (b) Climate change usually
- (c) Circular economy case by case
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal implementation objective of sustainable development
- (e) Smart and sustainable cities case by case
- (f) Sustainable infrastructure case by case
- (g) Renewables case by case

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/2020/3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/3, item II.A.7.

⁵ List of Focal Points for Administrative Matters, available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/focal-points-administrative-matters>.

⁶ List of Points of Contact regarding Notification, available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/points-contact-regarding-notification>.

(h) Other issues not listed above (please specify):

Please provide at least one example of how one of the above-mentioned issues is addressed in the environmental impact assessment documentation:

You may wish to use the template in annex III to the questionnaire.

Your comments:

II.20. Please indicate whether, in your country's practice, cumulative impacts are taken into account during the assessment under the Convention and, if so, how:

(a) No

(b) Yes

If "Yes", please provide at least one example of how cumulative impacts are considered. For example, planning offshore wind farms in the Baltic Sea.

Your comments:

II.21. Please indicate whether health issues are taken into account in your country during the assessment under the Convention in practice and, if so, how:

(a) No

(b) Yes

If "Yes", please provide at least one example of how health issues are taken into account. For example, taking into account such impact aspects like air quality, noise, changes of level of magnetic field (from the EIA of *Construction of the European standard gauge public railway infrastructure line Rail Baltica*).

Your comments:

II.22. Please indicate whether environmental impact assessments implemented in your country can be considered to have contributed to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and their specific targets:

(a) No, there is no evidence that environmental impact assessments contribute to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

(b) Yes, (certain) environmental impact assessments significantly contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

(c) Yes, (certain) environmental impact assessments contributed somewhat to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

According to the Article 3 of the EIA Law environmental impact assessment must be performed considering the principle of sustainable development. *Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030* (<https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/latvijas-ilgtspējīgas-attīstības-stratēģiju-līdz-2030gadam-latvija2030>) and there provided goals must be taken into account as well.

If "Yes", please list the most relevant Sustainable Development Goals⁷ (and their targets) and provide [at least one] example[s] of how environmental impact assessment has contributed to their attainment.

⁷ In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and, in particular the Protocol, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para. 7). Selected examples of Sustainable Development Goal targets that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of the Working Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016):

(a) Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);

Your comments:

C. Experience in using the available guidance documents in 2019–2021

II.23. Have you used in practice the following guidance, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties and available online?

<i>Title of guidance document</i>	<i>Use of guidance</i>	<i>Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance</i>
Guidance on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ECE/MP.EIA/7)	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	

-
- (b) Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets 6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);
- (c) Sustainable Development Goal 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4);
- (e) Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);
- (f) Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);
- (g) Sustainable Development Goal 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);
- (h) Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);
- (i) Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);
- (j) Sustainable Development Goal 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);
- (k) Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);
- (l) Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17). For more details, see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5_April2016/Infor_mal_document_16_eca.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16__Sustainable_Development_Goal_Mapping.pdf.

Title of guidance document	Use of guidance	Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance
Guidance on subregional cooperation (ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex V, appendix)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on the Practical Application of the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/8)	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/2020/9)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Good Practice Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities (ECE/MP.EIA/24)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the document <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The document is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The document is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	

<i>Title of guidance document</i>	<i>Use of guidance</i>	<i>Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance</i>
Revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries (ECE/MP.EIA/28)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the document <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The document is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The document is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on Notification according to the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/12)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	

Your comments:

D. Clarity of the Convention

II.24. Has your country had difficulties implementing the procedures defined in the Convention, either as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, because of a lack of clarity of the provisions?

No

Yes Please indicate which provisions and how they are unclear:

Your comments:

E. Contributions to the funding of the workplans

II.25. Please indicate whether the information regarding contributions to the trust fund was already provided by your country in the responses to the questionnaire concerning the Protocol and covered both the Convention and the Protocol:

(i) Yes

(ii) No

If "No", please provide the information regarding the contributions to the trust fund below.

Your comments:

II.26. Through paragraph 4 of decision VII/4–III/4, applicable for the period 2017–2020, the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol jointly “urge[d] all Parties to contribute to ensuring sustainable funding of activities and an equitable and proportionate sharing of the financial burden among the Parties”.⁸ For the period 2021–2023, by paragraph 1 of decision VIII/1–IV/1, regarding funding of the adopted workplans, the Meeting of the Parties decided that “all the Parties have a duty to contribute to the sharing of the costs that are not covered by the United Nations regular budget”.⁹

(a) Please indicate whether your Government contributed to the funding of the workplans during the reporting period, indicating also the currency and the amount of the contribution:

(i) My government made a multi-year contribution for the period 2017–2020

Please indicate when the contribution was provided (year), amount and currency:
1000 euro per year

(ii) Individual contribution in 2019

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iii) Individual contribution in 2020:

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iv) Individual contribution in 2021:

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(v) Please indicate any plans of your country to contribute for the period 2021–2023

(b) Did your country make in-kind contributions in the reporting period?

Yes Please describe how:

No Please explain the reason

F. Suggested improvements to the report

II.27. Please provide further suggestions (preferably specific drafting proposals including wording suggestions) for how this report could be improved.

⁸ ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1.

⁹ ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1.

Annex I

Number of transboundary procedures initiated by your country, as a Party of origin, and participated in, as an affected Party, in the reporting period

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>		<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
1.	Crude oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 metric tons or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.		
2. (a)	Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more;		
2. (b)	Nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors, including the dismantling or decommissioning of such power stations or reactors 1/ (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).		1
3. (a)	Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel;		
3. (b)	Installations designed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel; - For the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste; - For the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel; - Solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste; or - Solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or radioactive waste in a different site than the production site. 		
4.	Major installations for the initial smelting of cast iron and steel and for the production of non-ferrous metals.		
5.	Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20,000 metric tons finished product; for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 metric tons finished product; and for other asbestos utilization of more than 200 metric tons per year.		
6.	Integrated chemical installations.		

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>	<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
7. (a) Construction of motorways, express roads 2/ and lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports 3/ with a basic runway length of 2,100 metres or more;		1
7. (b) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road, would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.		
8. Large-diameter pipelines for the transport of oil, gas or chemicals.		
9. Trading ports and also inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1,350 metric tons.		
10.(a) Waste-disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment or landfill of toxic and dangerous wastes;		
10.(b) Waste-disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 metric tons per day.		
11. Large dams and reservoirs.		
12. Groundwater abstraction activities or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water to be abstracted or recharged amounts to 10 million cubic metres or more.		
13. Pulp, paper and board manufacturing of 200 air-dried metric tons or more per day.		
14. Major quarries, mining, on-site extraction and processing of metal ores or coal.		
15. Offshore hydrocarbon production. Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 500 metric tons/day in the case of petroleum and 500 000 cubic metres/day in the case of gas.		
16. Major storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.		
17. Deforestation of large areas.		
18.(a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where this transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year (transfers of piped drinking water are excluded);		
18.(b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2 000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 per cent of this flow (transfers of piped drinking water are excluded).		
19. Wastewater treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150 000 population equivalent.		

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>		<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
20.	Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than: - 85 000 places for broilers; - 60 000 places for hens; - 3 000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); - 900 places for sows.		
21.	Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 15 km.		
22.	Major installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms).		3

Activities not listed in appendix I for which your country implemented a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure in the reporting period

1.

^a Party of origin.

^b Affected Party.

Annex II

A detailed list of the transboundary procedures in which your party participated as a Party of origin (table 1) and as an affected Party (table 2) in the reporting period

Table 1

Transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures as a Party of origin

Please find below an example of expected types of answers in each column and feel free to add additional rows as needed

				<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available)</i>
1. For example, Project "A"	Date	Party A Party B	State of the procedure (select as appropriate) screening/scoping/reviewing the environmental impact assessment documentation: Date	Date	Date from: to:	Date from: to:	Date

Table 2

Transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures as an affected Party

Please find below an example of expected types of answers in each column, and feel free to add additional rows as needed

					<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>	
1. European-standard railway line Rail Baltic in the section “Pärnu-Estonian-Latvia border”	Notification received: 18.06.2019. Response sent: 19.07.2019. Stage of the procedure -screening	The Republic of Estonia	18.06.2019. screening					
2. The offshore windfarm project in the Gulf of Riga initiated by Eesti Energia AS	Notification received: 07.02.2020. Response sent: 27.03.2020. Stage of the procedure:	The Republic of Estonia	07.02.2020. screening 14.10.2020. the EIA documentation	14.12.2020.	14.10.2020.- 27.11.2020.	Written comments 14.10.2020.- 27.11.2020.		

				<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>
	screening						
3. The offshore windfarm project in the Gulf of Riga initiated by Tuuletraal OÜ	Notification received: 07.02.2020. Response sent: 27.03.2020. Stage of the procedure: screening	The Republic of Estonia	07.02.2020. screening				
4. Dismantling and decontamination of equipment from the working areas R1 and R2 of Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 reactor	Notification received: 06.02.2020. Response sent: 12.03.2020. Stage of the procedure: screening	The Republic of Lithuania	06.02.2020. screening	01.07.2021.	26.01.2021.- 25.02.2021.	26.01.2021.- 25.02.2021. Hearing 05.02.2021.	
5. The offshore windfarm project in the west coast of Saare county	Notification received: 09.07.2020	The Republic of Estonia	09.07.2020. screening	10.06.2021.	15.04.2021.- 04.06.2021.	15.04.2021.- 04.06.2021.	

Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available

<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) –</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>
	Response sent: 07.09.2020.						
	Stage of the procedure: screening.						

Annex III

Template to describe an example of application of a transboundary procedure in accordance with the Convention in the reporting period

Please provide at least one example of application of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure in accordance with the Convention in the reporting period using the template and reflecting on the priorities of the 2021–2023 workplan and the long-term strategy. Should you wish to share more examples, please copy the template, as needed.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following general information about the selected example:

1. Title of the transboundary procedure:
2. Party's role in the procedure and a list and roles of other Parties involved

Party of origin: <input type="checkbox"/>	Affected Party: <input type="checkbox"/>
Affected Party/ies: (please list)	Party/ies of origin: (please list)

3. Duration and period of implementation:
4. Stage(s)/step(s) of the procedure presented in this example:
 - The entire procedure
 - Notification (art. 3):
 - Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation (art. 4):
 - Consultations of the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation (art. 5 (a)–(c))
 - Final decision (art. 6):
 - Post-project analysis (art. 7, if applicable)
 - Other , please specify:

II. BACKGROUND

Please provide a short description of the activity, the context of its development and general information about the environmental impact assessment procedure

III. PROCEDURE UNDER THE CONVENTION AND ELEMENTS OF GOOD PRACTICE

Please describe, in more detail, using the subsections below, the procedural step(s) considered to represent good practice and then explain why that is.

1. **Notification** (art. 3):
2. **Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation** (art. 4):

In addition to the description above regarding the preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation, please indicate the following:

- (a) What alternatives were assessed and presented in the environmental impact assessment documentation?

- (i) At what level of detail were the alternatives described?
 - (ii) What methods and/or assessment grids were used for the selection of the most reasonable alternative?
- (b) Whether the following issues were covered in the environmental impact assessment documentation and, if so, how:
- (i) Biodiversity
 - (ii) Climate change
 - (iii) Circular economy
 - (iv) Sustainable Development Goal implementation
 - (v) Smart and sustainable cities
 - (vi) Sustainable infrastructure
 - (vii) Renewables
 - (viii) Other issues not listed above:
- 3. Consultations on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation** (art. 5 (a)–(c)):
- 4. Final decision** (art. 6):
- 5. Post-project analysis** (art. 7, if applicable):

IV. LESSONS LEARNED AND ADVICE TO OTHER PARTIES:

1. Please indicate:

Challenges in carrying out the procedure, if any, and how they were tackled

Lessons learned and advice to other Parties:

2. As relevant, please also refer to the contribution of the above application of environmental impact assessment procedure towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals¹ or climate objectives:

¹ In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and in particular the Protocol contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para. 7). Selected examples of Sustainable Development Goal targets that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of the Working Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016)):

- (a) Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);
- (b) Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets 6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);
- (c) Sustainable Development Goal 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4);
- (e) Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);
- (f) Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);
- (g) Sustainable Development Goal 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);
- (h) Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);

V. ANY OTHER INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED ABOVE THAT YOU MAY WISH TO SHARE:

-
- (i) Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);
 - (j) Sustainable Development Goal 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);
 - (k) Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);
 - (l) Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17).
- For more details, see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5_April2016/Informal_document_16_ecc.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16__Sustainable_Development_Goal_Mapping.pdf.